

Service Date: April 14, 1981

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

* * * *

IN THE MATTER of the Application of)
Pacific Power & Light Company to)
increase water rates to its Libby,)
Montana Service Area.)

UTILITY DIVISION
DOCKET NO. 81.1.3
ORDER NO. 4751a

On January 15, 1981, Pacific Power & Light Co. (Applicant) filed an application with the Montana Public Service Commission for an order authorizing the Applicant to increase its water rates to provide revenues to defray increased costs of operation and to maintain and repair the existing system.

Having considered the application and the documentation furnished by Applicant in support of its application and deeming itself fully advised in the premises, the Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On January 15, 1981 Pacific Power & Light Co. (Applicant) filed an application for authority to increase water rates, on a permanent basis, by approximately 15.5%, equalling a revenue increase of approximately \$57,646.

2. Concurrent with the filing of the permanent application for increased rates, the Applicant filed an application for interim increase in rates of approximately 15.5%, equalling a revenue increase of approximately \$57,646 or 100% of the proposed permanent increase.

3. A Notice of Request For Interim Rate Relief was published in the Daily Inter Lake and the Western News.

4. On February 25, 1981, Interim Order No. 4751 was issued in Docket No. 81.1.3. This order granted the Applicant an increase in water rates, to offset increased costs of operation, for water services rendered on and after February 17, 1981.

5. A Notice of Opportunity For Public Hearing to be held, if requested, was published in the March 8, 1981 edition of the Daily Inter Lake and the March 11, 1981 edition of the Western News. The notice stated that if no requests for a public hearing were received by March 31, 1981 an appropriate order may be issued based upon evidence submitted with the application.

6. No protests or requests for public hearing were received and no hearing was scheduled.

7. The Applicant alleges it needs additional revenue to provide for increased costs of operation and to maintain and repair the existing system.

8. The Applicant anticipates that the proposed increase to provide revenues for increased costs of operation will generate \$57,646 in additional annual revenue.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over parties and proceedings in this matter.

2. Interested persons were given proper notice and an opportunity to request a public hearing on this matter.

3. The resulting rate levels are reasonable and just.

ORDER

1. The rates approved in Interim Order No. 4751 are hereby made permanent.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION in Helena, Montana this 13th day of April, 1981
by a 4 - 0 vote.

DOCKET NO. 81.1.3, ORDER NO. 4751a

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

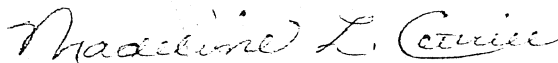

GORDON E. BOLLINGER, Chairman


HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner


JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner


THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Madeline L. Cottrill
Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: You may be entitled to judicial review of the final decision in this matter. If no Motion for Reconsideration is filed, judicial review may be obtained by filing a petition for review within thirty (30) days from the service of this order. If a Motion for Reconsideration is filed, a Commission order is final for purpose of appeal upon the entry of a ruling on that motion, or upon the passage of ten (10) days following the filing of that motion. cf. the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, esp. Sec. 2-4-702, MCA, and Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, esp. 38.2.4806, ARM.